This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended)   A General Packet Radio System (GPRS) -based communications network comprising:

a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) receiving an Activate Packet Data Protocol (PDP) Context Request message from a mobile station of the GPRS-based communications network, the Activate PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information that explicitly indicates requesting ~~relating to a request for~~ one of a private network address and a public network address; and

a Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN) of the GPRS-based communications network,

the SGSN sending a Create PDP Context Request message from the SGSN to the GGSN in response to the Activate PDP Protocol Context Request, the Create PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information relating to a request for one of a private network address and a public network address,

the GGSN assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station in response to the Create PDP Context Request message, and sending a Create PDP Context Response message from the GGSN to the SGSN containing the information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message,

the SGSN sending an Activate PDP Context Accept message to the mobile station in response to the Create PDP Context Response message, the Activate PDP Context Accept message containing information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

2.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 1, wherein the mobile station receives the Activate PDP Context Accept message containing the information relating to an assignment of one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 1, wherein the private network address and the public network address are each one of an IPv4 network address and an IPv6 network address.

6.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 1, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a GPRS communications network.

7.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 1, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System.

8.   (Currently amended)   A method for assigning a network address in a General Packet Radio System (GPRS) -based communications network, the method comprising:

        receiving an Activate Packet Data Protocol (PDP) Context Request message at a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) of the GPRS-based communications network from a mobile station of the GPRS-based communications network, the Activate PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information that explicitly indicates requesting relating to a request for one of a private network address and a public network address; and

sending an Activate PDP Context Accept message to the mobile station containing information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

9.   (Original) The method according to claim 8, further comprising steps of:

sending a Create PDP Context Request message from the SGSN to a Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN) of the GPRS-based communications network, the Create PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information relating to a request for one of a private network address and a public network address; and

receiving a Create PDP Context Response message from the GGSN containing information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

10.   (Original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising steps of:

receiving the Create PDP Context Request message from the SGSN at the GGSN;

assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message and

sending the Create PDP Context Response message from the GGSN to the SGSN containing the information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message.

11.   (Original) The method according to claim 8, further comprising steps of:

sending a Create PDP Context Request message from the SGSN to a Border Gateway (BG) of the GPRS-based communications network, the Create PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information relating to a request for one of a private network address and a public network address; and

receiving a Create PDP Context Response message at the SGSN from the BG containing information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

12.   (Original) The method according to claim 11, further comprising steps of:

receiving the Create PDP Context Request message at the BG;

assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message; and

sending the Create PDP Context Response message to the SGSN containing the information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message.

13.   (Original) The method according to claim 12, further comprising steps of:

sending the Create PDP Context Request message from the SGSN to a Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN) of the GPRS-based communications network;

sending the Create PDP Context Request message from the GGSN to the BG;

receiving the Create PDP Context Response message at the GGSN from the BG; and

receiving the Create PDP Context Response message at the SGSN from the GGSN.

14.   (Original) The method according to claim 8, further comprising a step receiving at the mobile station the Activate PDP Context Accept message containing the information relating to an assignment of one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

15.   (Cancelled)

16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the private network address and the public network address are each one of an IPv4 network address and an IPv6 network address.

18.   (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a GPRS communications network.

19.   (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System.

20.   (Currently amended) A General Packet Radio System (GPRS) -based communications network comprising:

a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) receiving an Activate Packet Data Protocol (PDP) Context Request message from a mobile station of the GPRS-based communications

network, the Activate PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information that explicitly indicates requesting ~~relating to a request for~~ one of a private network address and a public network address; and

a Border Gateway (BG) of the GPRS-based communications network,

the SGSN sending a Create PDP Context Request message from the SGSN to the BG in response to the Activate PDP Protocol Context Request, the Create PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information relating to a request for one of a private network address and a public network address,

the BG assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station in response to the Create PDP Context Request message, and sending a Create PDP Context Response message from the BG to the SGSN containing the information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message,

the SGSN sending an Activate PDP Context Accept message to the mobile station in response to the Create PDP Context Response message, the Activate PDP Context Accept message containing information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

21.   (Previously amended)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 20, further comprising a Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN), and

wherein the SGSN sending the Create PDP Context Request message from the SGSN to the GGSN in response to the Activate PDP Protocol Context Request,

wherein the GGSN sending the Create PDP Context Request message from the GGSN to the BG, and

wherein the BG sends the Create PDP Context Response message from the BG to the GGSN and the GGSN sends the Create PDP Context Response message from the GGSN to the SGSN.

22.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 20, wherein the mobile station receives the Activate PDP Context Accept message containing the information relating to an assignment of one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

23.   (Cancelled)

24.   (Cancelled)

25.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 20, wherein the private network address and the public network address are each one of an IPv4 network address and an IPv6 network address.

26.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 20, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a GPRS communications network.

27.   (Original)   The GPRS-based communications network according to claim 20, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System.

28.   (Currently amended)   A method for assigning a network address in a General Packet Radio System (GPRS) -based communications network, the method comprising:

receiving a Create Packet Data Protocol (PDP) Context Request message from a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) at Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN), the Create PDP Context Request Message having an APN field containing information that explicitly indicates

requesting ~~relating to a request for~~ one of a private network address and a public network address for a mobile station of the GPRS-based communications network;

assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message and

sending the Create PDP Context Response message from the GGSN to the SGSN containing the information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message.

29.   (Original)   The method according to claim 28, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a GPRS communications network.

30.   (Original)   The method according to claim 28, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System.

31.   (Currently amended)   A method for assigning a network address in a General Packet Radio System (GPRS) -based communications network, the method comprising:

receiving a Create Packet Data Protocol (PDP) Context Request message from a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) at Border Gateway (BG), the Create PDP Context Request Message having an APN field containing information that explicitly indicates requesting ~~relating to a request for~~ one of a private network address and a public network address for a mobile station of the GPRS-based communications network;

assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message and

sending the Create PDP Context Response message from the BG to the SGSN containing the information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Create PDP Context Request message.

32.   (Currently amended) A method for requesting an assignment of a network address in a General Packet Radio System (GPRS) -based communications network, the method comprising:

sending an Activate Packet Data Protocol (PDP) Context Request message to a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) of the GPRS-based communications network from a mobile station of the GPRS-based communications network, the Activate PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing information containing information that explicitly indicates requesting ~~relating to a request for~~ one of a private network address and a public network address; and

receiving at the mobile station an Activate PDP Context Accept message containing information relating to an assignment of one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the information contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.

33.   (Cancelled)

34.   (Cancelled)

35.   (Original) The method according to claim 32, wherein the private network address and the public network address are each one of an IPv4 network address and an IPv6 network address.

36.   (Original)   The method according to claim 32, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a GPRS communications network.

37.   (Original)   The method according to claim 32, wherein the GPRS-based communications network is a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System.

38.   (Cancelled)

39.   (Currently Amended)   A method for assigning a network address in a General Packet Radio System (GPRS)-based communications network, the method comprising:

receiving an Activate Packet Data Protocol (PDP) Context Request message at a Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) of the GPRS-based communications network from a mobile station of the GPRS-based communications network, the Activate PDP Context Request message having an APN field containing one or more parameters that explicitly indicates requesting ~~indicating a type of requested network address, wherein the type is~~ one of a private network address and a public network address; and

sending an Activate PDP Context Accept message to the mobile station containing information assigning one of a private network address and a public network address to the mobile station based on the one or more parameters indicating the type of requested network address contained in the APN field of the Activate PDP Context Request message.